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Missouri Area Labor Trends

Data Month February 1987

A Monthly Review of Missouri Labor Market Information

Missouri Labor Market Review

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Missouri unemployment dropped in February, as unemployment insurance claims decreased from January. Employment showed little change over the month but has continued to show substantial over-the-year gains.

The state's unemployment dropped two-tenths of a percentage point to 6.7 percent, as the number of unemployed Missourians decreased by 6000 to 168,900. The somewhat unusual decrease in unemployment between January and February may be attributable to unusually good weather in the February reference week. Unemployment is now estimated at 10,100 lower than it was a year ago, as the rate droped six-tenths of a percentage point.

Total employment (2,346,400) was little changed from January, while nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased by 2300 to 2,109,400. Manufacturing employment was down by 2200, largely because of a drop in auto manufacturing, but growth in the nonmanufacturing industries more than offset the decline. State and local government employment by 7700, as schools and colleges reopened following semester breaks. Employment in the service industries was up by 1900.

Over-the-year employment growth has continued to be relatively strong. Total employment in February is 67,700 higher than it was a year ago, while nonfarm payrolls are estimated to have grown by 32,400 jobs in the same period. Manufacturing payrolls decreased by 12,700 during the year, while services increased by 22,200; government by 8300; finance, insurance, and real estate by 7000; construction by 5700; retail trade by 4000; and transportation, communications, and utilities by 2000.

Average hours and earnings of manufacturing production workers were little different from month-ago or year-eariler levels. The factory workweek was 40.2 hours in February, compared to 40.1 hours in January and 40.3 hours in February 1986. Earnings averaged $9.86 an hour and $396.37 a week in February.

National Economic and Labor Market Conditions

National seasonally-adjusted unemployment remained at 6.7 percent of the civilian labor force for the third straight month in February. This rate was half a point below the

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EMPLOYMENT SECURITY - A Division of the Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

Table 1

MISSOURI DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES - ESTIMATES

COUNTY/LABOR MARKET AREA	CURRENT MONTH - FEB 1987 (PRELIMINARY)				PREVIOUS MONTH - JAN 1987 (REVISED)				ONE YEAR AGO - FEB 1986 (BENCHMARKED 1986)			
	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE
STATEWIDE	2515202	2346313	168889	6.7	2521603	2346683	174920	6.9	2457558	2278594	178964	7.3
ST. LOUIS MSA	1234056	1142152	91904	7.4	1241626	1148286	93340	7.5	1213171	1115454	97717	8.1
KANSAS CITY MSA	807657	766530	41127	5.1	806776	760198	46578	5.8	783569	741181	42388	5.4
SPRINGFIELD MSA	117795	111602	6193	5.3	117731	111427	6304	5.4	112484	106302	6182	5.5
COLUMBIA MSA	64659	62430	2229	3.4	63433	61126	2307	3.6	61762	59485	2277	3.7
JOPLIN MSA	67119	63260	3859	5.7	67297	63316	3981	5.9	64796	60650	4146	6.4
ST. JOSEPH MSA	40453	37068	3385	8.4	41029	37417	3612	8.8	41053	37121	3932	9.6
ADAIR/SCHUYLER LMA	13511	12735	776	5.7	13521	12722	799	5.9	13492	12479	1013	7.5
ANDREW	6654	6102	552	8.3	6664	6112	552	8.3	6762	6139	623	9.2
ATCHISON	2961	2790	171	5.8	2950	2779	171	5.8	3096	2892	204	6.6
AUDRAIN	10560	9802	758	7.2	10754	9902	852	7.9	10575	9836	739	7.0
BARRY	11922	11114	808	6.8	11741	10926	815	6.9	11397	10630	767	6.7
BARTON	5036	4829	207	4.1	5056	4821	235	4.6	4929	4721	208	4.2
BATES	6034	5496	538	8.9	6050	5495	555	9.2	6197	5578	619	10.0
BENTON	5275	4659	616	11.7	5276	4633	643	12.2	5098	4417	681	13.4
BOLLINGER	2983	2628	355	11.9	3122	2689	433	13.9	3513	2917	596	17.0
BUTLER	16798	14998	1800	10.7	16770	15132	1638	9.8	16600	14754	1846	11.1
CALDWELL	3296	3099	197	6.0	3248	3014	234	7.2	3277	2998	279	8.5
CALLAWAY	16207	15240	967	6.0	15926	14944	982	6.2	15098	14042	1056	7.0
CAMDEN	12297	10884	1413	11.5	12401	10884	1517	12.2	12199	10796	1403	11.5
CAPE GIRARDEAU	33519	31902	1617	4.8	33525	31898	1627	4.9	32298	30480	1818	5.6
CARROLL	4661	4339	322	6.9	4714	4360	354	7.5	4894	4377	517	10.6
CARTER	2095	1776	319	15.2	2031	1725	306	15.1	2124	1673	451	21.2
CEDAR	4733	4424	309	6.5	4802	4464	338	7.0	4836	4432	404	8.4
CHARITON	4243	3965	278	6.6	4219	3954	265	6.3	4313	3946	367	8.5
CLARK	3587	3336	251	7.0	3592	3323	269	7.5	3675	3320	355	9.7
CLINTON	7300	6840	460	6.3	7110	6549	561	7.9	6806	6275	531	7.8
COLE/OSAGE LMA	40530	38628	1902	4.7	40797	38608	2189	5.4	38570	36289	2281	5.9
COOPER	6543	6020	523	8.0	6519	5994	525	8.1	6783	6185	598	8.8
CRAWFORD	8015	7207	808	10.1	8060	7251	809	10.0	7428	6624	804	10.8
DADE	2882	2701	181	6.3	2861	2678	183	6.4	2860	2657	203	7.1
DALLAS	3726	3271	455	12.2	3719	3276	443	11.9	3776	3256	520	13.8
DAVIESS	4060	3835	225	5.5	4094	3863	231	5.6	3707	3484	223	6.0
DEKALB	3516	3246	270	7.7	3599	3312	287	8.0	3553	3234	319	9.0
DENT	5381	4728	653	12.1	5306	4643	663	12.5	5292	4682	610	11.5
DOUGLAS	4343	3947	396	9.1	4392	3987	405	9.2	4717	4119	598	12.7
DUNKLIN	13572	12261	1311	9.7	13592	12293	1299	9.6	13451	11816	1635	12.2
GASCONADE	6541	6049	492	7.5	6657	6110	547	8.2	6733	6219	514	7.6
GENTRY	3034	2869	165	5.4	3039	2890	149	4.9	3035	2846	189	6.2
GRUNDY	5242	4901	341	6.5	5316	4932	384	7.2	5192	4816	376	7.2
HARRISON	4498	4223	275	6.1	4524	4197	327	7.2	4653	4260	393	8.4
HENRY	7959	7211	748	9.4	7984	7240	744	9.3	8278	7431	847	10.2
HICKORY	2335	2093	242	10.4	2370	2105	265	11.2	2393	2096	297	12.4
HOLT	2551	2349	202	7.9	2565	2357	208	8.1	2485	2291	194	7.8
HOWARD	4686	4354	332	7.1	4603	4303	300	6.5	4582	4268	314	6.9
HOWELL	13245	12005	1240	9.4	13257	11990	1267	9.6	12836	11537	1299	10.1
IRON	2674	2254	420	15.7	2697	2263	434	16.1	3224	2699	525	16.3
JOHNSON	17666	16907	759	4.3	17592	16759	833	4.7	17572	16723	849	4.8
KNOX	1899	1756	143	7.5	1875	1735	140	7.5	1980	1765	215	10.9
LACLEDE	13085	12042	1043	8.0	13019	11987	1032	7.9	12006	10852	1154	9.6
LAWRENCE	12713	11749	964	7.6	12926	11953	973	7.5	12828	11857	971	7.6

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	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE	CLF	EMP	UNEMP	RATE
LEWIS	4551	4017	534	11.7	4512	4021	491	10.9	4993	4361	632	12.7
LINCOLN	10844	9934	910	8.4	10920	9941	979	9.0	10524	9472	1052	10.0
LINN	6318	5821	497	7.9	6354	5826	528	8.3	6582	5884	698	10.6
LIVINGSTON	6373	5929	444	7.0	6413	5988	425	6.6	6446	5904	542	8.4
MACON	8230	7664	566	6.9	8179	7643	536	6.6	7980	7170	810	10.2
MADISON	4143	3734	409	9.9	4100	3697	403	9.8	4135	3691	444	10.7
MARIES	4279	3924	355	8.3	4256	3860	396	9.3	4051	3701	350	8.6
MARION/RALLS LMA	16546	14994	1552	9.4	16713	15060	1653	9.9	17156	15243	1913	11.2
MCDONALD	6759	6276	483	7.1	6827	6351	476	7.0	6836	6212	624	9.1
MERCER	1598	1496	102	6.4	1592	1476	116	7.3	1562	1438	124	7.9
MILLER	9685	8176	1509	15.6	9606	8041	1565	16.3	9329	7714	1615	17.3
MISSISSIPPI	6067	5430	637	10.5	6211	5513	698	11.2	6310	5412	898	14.2
MONITEAU	6000	5329	671	11.2	6052	5314	738	12.2	6199	5358	841	13.6
MONROE	5408	5106	302	5.6	5445	5137	308	5.7	4900	4572	328	6.7
MONTGOMERY	4859	4495	364	7.5	4922	4491	431	8.8	4790	4308	482	10.1
MORGAN	7118	6276	842	11.8	7070	6228	842	11.9	6404	5606	798	12.5
NEW MADRID	9177	8344	833	9.1	9086	8146	940	10.3	9264	8133	1131	12.2
NODAWAY	10466	10057	409	3.9	10510	10067	443	4.2	10229	9619	610	6.0
OREGON	4062	3681	381	9.4	4045	3676	369	9.1	3762	3367	395	10.5
OZARK	3376	2978	398	11.8	3294	2962	332	10.1	3229	2845	384	11.9
PEMISCOT	8756	7809	947	10.8	8752	7845	907	10.4	8625	7635	990	11.5
PERRY	7609	7103	506	6.7	7712	7191	521	6.8	7500	6893	607	8.1
PETTIS	17445	16237	1208	6.9	17859	16397	1462	8.2	17641	15962	1679	9.5
PHELPS	16612	15538	1074	6.5	16528	15447	1081	6.5	16031	14893	1138	7.1
PIKE	7143	6527	616	8.6	7163	6503	660	9.2	7336	6504	832	11.3
POLK	9176	8630	546	6.0	9276	8680	596	6.4	9068	8374	694	7.7
PULASKI	11532	10762	770	6.7	11460	10692	768	6.7	11601	10757	844	7.3
PUTNAM	2179	2083	96	4.4	2205	2090	115	5.2	2175	2003	172	7.9
RANDOLPH	11325	10523	802	7.1	11216	10442	774	6.9	11591	10600	991	8.5
REYNOLDS	1709	1266	443	25.9	1689	1270	419	24.8	1786	1379	407	22.8
RIPLEY	4498	4043	455	10.1	4519	4047	472	10.4	4169	3644	525	12.6
SALINE	10742	10122	620	5.8	10957	10209	748	6.8	11398	10540	858	7.5
SCOTLAND	2278	2107	171	7.5	2261	2106	155	6.9	2210	2009	201	9.1
SCOTT	17373	15981	1392	8.0	17493	16053	1440	8.2	17060	15417	1643	9.6
SHANNON	2311	1871	440	19.0	2302	1878	424	18.4	2740	2113	627	22.9
SHELBY	3372	3170	202	6.0	3406	3214	192	5.6	3408	3118	290	8.5
ST. CLAIR	3379	3143	236	7.0	3346	3117	229	6.8	3272	3026	246	7.5
ST. FRANCOIS	19335	17575	1760	9.1	19151	17378	1773	9.3	17933	15965	1968	11.0
STE. GENEVIEVE	6637	6117	520	7.8	6612	6085	527	8.0	6545	5862	683	10.4
STODDARD	12825	11398	1427	11.1	13026	11544	1482	11.4	12504	10958	1546	12.4
STONE	7383	5848	1535	20.8	7311	5765	1546	21.1	7343	5655	1688	23.0
SULLIVAN	3447	3288	159	4.6	3484	3308	176	5.1	3314	3122	192	5.8
TANEY	12795	10583	2212	17.3	12686	10456	2230	17.6	12362	10036	2326	18.8
TEXAS	9100	8137	963	10.6	9021	8194	827	9.2	9298	7968	1330	14.3
VERNON	8890	8402	488	5.5	9042	8551	491	5.4	8756	8157	599	6.8
WARREN	9313	8716	597	6.4	9345	8710	635	6.8	8746	8119	627	7.2
WASHINGTON	6151	4762	1389	22.6	6246	4821	1425	22.8	6697	5664	1033	15.4
WAYNE	4470	3947	523	11.7	4567	4015	552	12.1	4563	3824	739	16.2
WEBSTER	8919	7993	926	10.4	8998	8074	924	10.3	9232	8132	1100	11.9
WORTH	1103	1024	79	7.2	1099	1020	79	7.2	1121	1053	68	6.1
WRIGHT	6548	5902	646	9.9	6461	5906	555	8.6	6826	5962	864	12.7

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2. Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment, Hours and Earnings
Missouri (Statewide)
February, 1987

Industry Title	All Employees (In Thousands)			Production Workers								
				Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago
Total Non-Agri. Employment	2109.4	2107.1	2077.0									
Total Manufacturing	412.0	414.2	424.7	396.37	395.39	397.76	40.2	40.1	40.3	9.86	9.86	9.87
Durable Goods	230.8	232.7	242.8	440.50	436.24	450.43	41.4	41.0	41.9	10.64	10.64	10.75
Lumber & Wood Products	10.2	10.2	9.8	254.80	248.95	240.29	38.9	38.3	37.9	6.55	6.50	6.34
Furniture & Fixtures	10.4	10.4	10.1	359.53	352.79	332.32	45.8	44.6	45.9	7.85	7.91	7.24
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	10.7	10.6	10.2	498.07	493.72	453.06	44.5	44.6	41.3	11.17	11.07	10.97
Cement, Hydraulic	1.0	1.0	0.9	657.53	618.41	709.60	44.1	41.7	46.9	14.91	14.83	15.13
Structural Clay Prod.	2.0	1.9	1.9	526.96	495.40	516.67	43.3	39.6	41.4	12.17	12.51	12.48
Primary Metal Industries	12.5	12.5	13.2	428.09	428.80	443.64	40.5	40.0	41.5	10.57	10.72	10.69
Iron & Steel Foundries	1.4	1.3	1.6	415.04	390.73	380.25	42.7	41.0	39.9	9.72	9.53	9.53
Nonferrous Foundries	3.5	3.5	3.4	361.49	341.96	358.31	43.5	41.2	44.4	8.31	8.30	8.07
Fabricated Metal Products	28.0	28.2	29.1	423.11	419.92	406.96	41.4	41.7	41.4	10.22	10.07	9.83
Structural Metal Prod.	11.0	11.1	11.4	398.00	427.91	398.94	40.0	42.2	41.6	9.95	10.14	9.59
Machinery Exc. Electrical	29.7	29.8	30.5	407.84	423.52	417.38	40.5	41.4	41.0	10.07	10.23	10.18
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	46.8	47.3	48.5	391.31	384.64	381.19	40.3	39.9	40.9	9.71	9.64	9.32
Transportation Equipment	63.9	65.1	72.7	605.06	587.64	622.69	42.7	41.5	44.1	14.17	14.16	14.12
Motor Vehicles & Equip.	27.1	28.3	37.3	628.38	498.13	665.93	43.3	40.8	45.8	14.72	14.66	14.54
Instruments & Related Prod.	11.2	11.2	11.5	319.02	316.02	316.91	40.9	39.7	39.8	7.80	7.96	7.94
Misc. Mfg. Inds.	7.4	7.4	7.1	258.30	252.32	259.97	38.9	38.0	38.4	6.64	6.64	6.77
Nondurable Goods	181.2	181.5	181.9	340.45	343.59	327.28	38.6	39.0	38.1	8.82	8.81	8.59
Food & Kindred Products	46.6	46.6	44.6	394.63	406.85	385.82	40.6	41.6	40.4	9.72	9.78	9.55
Meat Products & Preserved Fruits & Vegetables	13.1	13.2	12.5	294.11	299.21	268.23	40.4	41.1	39.1	7.28	7.28	6.86
Dairy Products	5.9	5.8	6.0	467.04	508.51	418.35	45.3	48.2	42.3	10.31	10.55	9.89
Grain Mill Products	7.1	7.1	7.0	435.74	446.59	459.19	42.1	42.9	43.9	10.35	10.41	10.46
Bakery Products	6.0	6.0	5.5	397.02	393.95	376.15	39.0	38.1	38.5	10.18	10.34	9.77
Beverages	10.1	10.1	9.2	544.81	552.79	547.94	36.2	37.2	37.3	15.05	14.86	14.69

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Industry Title	All Employees (In Thousands)			Production Workers								
				Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago	Curr. Mo.	Prev. Mo.	1 Yr. Ago
Other Food & Kindred Prods.	4.4	4.4	4.4	376.48	399.16	418.82	41.1	42.6	43.0	9.16	9.37	9.74
Textile & Apparel	24.8	24.8	24.4	200.55	195.39	193.20	35.0	34.1	34.5	5.73	5.73	5.60
Paper & Allied Products	13.5	13.4	13.0	423.78	425.27	380.78	42.0	43.0	40.9	10.09	9.89	9.31
Paperboard Cont. & Boxes	6.4	6.3	6.6	435.56	426.26	398.65	43.6	43.1	41.7	9.99	9.89	9.56
Printing & Publishing	38.6	38.8	40.3	386.69	389.34	372.10	37.8	37.8	38.6	10.23	10.30	9.64
Commercial Printing	13.4	13.5	13.3	462.58	460.23	432.28	40.4	40.3	40.1	11.45	11.42	10.78
Chemicals & Allied	28.1	27.9	28.1	471.50	463.80	442.09	41.8	41.3	40.3	11.28	11.23	10.97
Leather & Leather Products	16.3	16.6	17.7	180.70	201.78	171.68	32.5	35.4	31.5	5.56	5.70	5.45
Footwear Exc. Rubber	12.5	12.8	14.2	169.71	190.85	165.36	31.9	34.7	31.2	5.32	5.50	5.30
Total Nonmanufacturing	1697.4	1692.9	1652.3									
Mining	5.2	5.2	5.7									
Construction	89.0	92.0	83.3									
Transportation & Public Util.	140.4	140.7	138.4									
Railroad Transportation	9.9	9.9	10.6									
Transportation (Exc. R.R.)	75.0	75.2	72.4									
Communications	55.5	55.6	55.4									
Wholesale & Retail Trade	491.1	493.7	490.7									
Wholesale Trade	122.3	122.7	125.9									
Retail Trade	368.8	371.0	364.8									
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	131.5	131.6	124.5									
Services	488.5	486.6	466.3									
Government	351.7	343.1	343.4									
Federal Government	73.1	72.2	71.8									
State & Local Government	0	0	0									

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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year-earlier rate and the lowest since the spring of 1980.

Employment has continued to show strong growth. Total civilian employment grew by 370,000 on a seasonally adjusted basis in February, as the proportion of the population that is employed reached à new high of 61.2 percent. Nonfarm payroll employment has grown by about a quarter of a million jobs in each of the past six months, reaching nearly 102 million jobs in February. February growth was strongest in the nonmanufacturing industries, notably services; retail trade; and finance, insurance, and real estate.

Outlook

The government's index of leading economic indicators showed a solid gain in February. Analysts believe this shows a return to steady, if rather slow, growth in the economy following swings in December and January related to tax law changes.

Seasonal improvement in Missouri employment and unemployment usually begins in March and accelerates in April. Continued employment growth can be expected in the nonmanufacturing industries, but improvement in manufacturing will probably depend on national economic conditions and international trade considerations.

Table 3. Selected Economic Statistics Related To Manpower Developments Missouri — February, 1987

Item	Current Mo. (Preliminary)	1 Mo. Ago (Revised)	1Yr. Ago (Revised)	Net Change To Current Month From:	
				1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
Total Civilian Labor Force (No. of Workers)	2,515,200	2,521,600	2,457,600	-6,400	57,600
Total Employed	2,346,300	2,346,700	2,278,600	-400	67,700
Total Unemployed	168,900	174,900	179,000	-6,000	-10,100
Unemployment Rate (% of CLF)	6.7	6.9	7.3	-0.2	-0.6
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment					
Except Domestics (No. of Jobs)	2,109,300	2,107,200	2,077,000	2,100	32,300
Manufacturing	411,800	414,300	424,600	-2,500	-12,800
Durable Goods	230,600	232,800	242,700	242,700	-12,100
Nondurable Goods	181,200	181,500	181,900	-300	-700
Nonmanufacturing	1,697,500	1,693,000	1,652,300	4,500	45,200
State Initial Claims (Wkly Avg.)	15,566	14,060	8,943	1,506	6,623
State Insured Unemployment (Wkly Avg.)	72,379	65,375	63,608	7,004	8,771
Insured Unemployment Rate	3.3	3.1	3.7	0.2	-0.4
Exhaustions (State U.I.)	4,714	3,990	3,718	724	996
Amount of Benefits Paid	$24,989,378	$25,604,328	$22,929,817	-$614,950	$2,059,561
State U.I.	24,630,454	25,169,467	22,565,104	-539,013	2,065,350
UCFE	175,845	237,984	165,302	-62,139	10,543
UCX	183,079	196,877	199,411	-13,798	-16,332

Prepared in cooperation with U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Kansas City Labor Market Review

The Kansas City Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) includes Jackson, Cass, Clay, Lafayette, Platte and Ray counties in Missouri and Johnson, Wyandotte, Leavenworth and Miami counties in Kansas. The 1980 population for the MSA has been published at 1,433,458 persons by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

February, 1987

Franciena King, Analyst

The number of unemployed fell by 5,500 and the Area's overall unemployment rate dropped by seven tenths of a percentage point to 5.1 per cent in February 1987, primarily as a result of the return to work of some 4,000 temporarily laid off automobile assembly workers. The labor force expanded over-the-month by more than 1,000 primarily as seasonal employment in the Federal Government's public finance sector increased. The number of employed and unemployed showed considerable improvement over the January 1987 levels. The Area's unemployment situation also showed improvement over-the-year. A much expanded civilian labor force absorbed close to 24,000 more new workers than were employed in February 1986. Unemployment also was lower by 1,300 workers in February 1987 than in February 1986. The overall unemployment rate was down by three tenths of a point from a year ago.

Wage and salaried employment in February 1987 was 712,800 up by 4,400 jobs from the January 1987 total of 708,400. The major factor affecting employment over-the-month was the return to work of more than 4,000 temporarily laid off auto assembly workers at one of the Area's automobile assembly plants. With that major exception, most of the other changes in the labor market were concentrated in the Nonmanufacturing sector. The seasonal hiring of tax processors contributed the bulk of the approximately 1,000 new workers added to the Federal Government sector. As area schools returned to normal after the winter semester break, another 2,000 school employees were added in State and Local Government. Moderate increases were also posted in the Services, which was up by 300 and Transportation, Communications and Utilities, which was up by 200 jobs. Offsetting these major gains in employment were several significant losses within the Nonmanufacturing sector. The most substantial loss occurred in the Wholesale and Retail Trade which fell below the January total by 1,800 jobs. The bulk of those declines were recorded in department store jobs which fell by 600 or approximately 40 per cent of the total Retail Trade loss within the industry. The Construction industry posted only moderate losses, with 500 fewer jobs in February than in January; these losses were broadly scattered across all types of construction activity. Elsewhere within Manufacturing only the Electronic inudstry showed any significant change, with 300 fewer jobs over-the-month.

Wage and salaried employment increased from 701,900 to 712,800 jobs from February 1986 to February 1987 for a total of 10,900 jobs. Durable Goods Manufacturing fell by 2,200 while Nondurable Goods Manufacturing increased by a moderate 400 jobs over the 12-month period. Most of the major job growth occurred in the Nonmanufacturing sector, which added 12,600 jobs over-the-year. Despite the moderate over-the-month growth, the Services sector recorded more than 4,000 more jobs in February 1987 than in February 1986. These increases occurred across several service industries. Business services contributed the bulk of the gain with almost a third of the 4,200 new jobs, but health services, legal, personal and recreation services also showed significant growth compared to the year ago figures. Another 3,600 more jobs were added in the Construction sector over-the-year, primarily in the special trades. Relatively mild winter weather has contributed to the Construction sector maintaining relatively high employment levels throughout the year. Increased activity in real estate has generated 1,000 more jobs in that sector compared to last year at this time and accounts for almost half the 2,200 new jobs in Finance, Insurance and Real Estate. Compared to the year ago totals, employment in both Federal and State and Local Government were up considerably in February 1987. Led by the gains in public finance employment, primarily of tax processors, the Federal Government sector showed 1,900 more jobs, while local Area schools added another 1,400 jobs to the Area's State and Local Government sector. Among the industries within Nonmanufacturing, only the Wholesale and Retail Trade sector and Transportation, Communications and Utilities suffered losses compared to year ago figures, although these were relatively moderate, accounting for only about 600 jobs.

Within the Manufacturing sector, employment changes over-the-year were mixed. Major losses continued to plague the Electronics Equipment industry as worsening competitive conditions for the Area's industry accounted for another 2,100 jobs lost in electronic and communications equipment. Other moderate losses were recorded in Printing and Publishing, which fell by 400 over-the-year and Motor Vehicles and Fabricated Metal Products, which together accounted for another 700 jobs lost. Gains in several Nondurable goods Manufacturing industries, as Chemicals Products, Paper and Allied Products and Food and Kindred Products, only partially offset the losses, for an overall loss of 1,800 jobs over-the-year.

Total unemployment on a place-of-residence basis was 41,100 in February 1987 for 5.1 per cent of the labor force, compared to 46,600 in January 1987 for 5.7 per cent of the labor force and 42,400 in February 1986 for 5.4 per cent of the labor force.

Employment and Unemployment Forecast

Little change is expected in the Area's overall unemployment rate in March 1987. The Area's overall unemployment

rate will hover around 5.1 per cent. Employment changes among the various industries however will be varied. Manufacturing employment may record substantial losses as one of the Area's automobile assembly plants loses its second shift and another major employer sharply curtails its operations. Increases in the Area's seasonal industries will offset these losses to a great extent however. Employment gains are expected to be 5.1 per cent of the labor force in March 1987, compared to 5.1 per cent in February 1987 and 5.2 in March 1986.

As seasonal factors continue to dominate the Area's labor market, the unemployment rate may fall below 5.0 per cent in April 1987. The number of unemployed workers will shrink as many labor force participants and new entrants find gainful work for the summer. These early job searchs will generate increased employment in many seasonal industries, such as in the Services, Construction, Transportation, Communications and Utilities and Government. Unemployment will be 4.9 per cent of the labor force in April 1987, compared to 5.1 per cent in March 1987 and 4.7 per cent in April 1986.

Table 1. Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment
(Place of Work)
(Benchmark — March 1986)

Area and State: Kansas City, Missouri-Kansas **Month and Year of Current: February, 1987**

Item	Number of Jobs			Net Change To Current Month From:	
	Current Mo.	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Total Nonagricultural Wage & Salaried Employment	712,800	708,400	701,900	+4,400	+10,900
Total Manufacturing	116,700	113,400	118,500	+3,300	-1,800
Durable Goods	65,200	61,700	67,400	+3,500	-2,200
Lumber & Furniture	3,500	3,600	3,300	-100	+200
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	3,600	3,500	3,400	+100	+200
Primary Metal Industries	3,600	3,700	3,700	-100	-100
Fabricated Metal Products	8,900	9,000	9,200	-100	-300
Machinery Except Electrical	8,200	8,300	8,100	-100	+100
Electrical Equipment & Supplies	18,300	18,600	20,400	-300	-2,100
Transportation Equipment	15,300	11,300	15,600	+4,000	-300
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	(14,900)	(10,900)	(15,300)	(+4,000)	(-400)
Other Durable Goods	3,600	3,700	3,600	-100	0
Nondurable Goods	51,500	51,700	51,100	-200	+400
Food & Kindred Products	9,000	9,200	8,700	-200	+300
Apparel & Other Textile Products	2,300	2,300	2,400	0	-100
Paper & Allied Products	5,800	5,700	5,500	+100	+300
Printing & Publishing	19,700	19,800	20,100	-100	-400
Chemicals & Allied Products	9,200	9,200	8,600	0	-400
Petroleum & Coal Products	500	500	600	0	-100
Other Nondurable Goods	5,000	5,100	5,200	-100	-200
Total Nonmanufacturing	596,100	594,900	583,500	+1,200	+12,600
Mining & Quarrying	500	500	500	0	0
Construction	33,600	34,100	30,000	-500	+3,600
Transportation, Comm. & Utilities	54,300	54,100	54,500	+200	-200
Wholesale & Retail Trade	177,800	179,600	178,200	-1,800	-400
Wholesale Trade	(55,100)	(55,400)	(55,300)	(-300)	(-200)
Retail Trade	(122,700)	(124,200)	(122,900)	(-1,500)	(-200)
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	56,800	56,900	54,600	-100	+2,200
Services	161,000	160,700	156,800	+300	+4,200
Government	112,100	109,100	108,800	+3,000	+3,300
Federal Government	(31,800)	(30,800)	(29,900)	(+1,000)	(+1,900)
State & Local Government	(80,300)	(78,300)	(78,900)	(+2,000)	(+1,400)
In Labor-Management Disputes	100	100	300	0	-200

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2. Production Workers Average Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Area and State: Kansas City, Missouri-Kansas **Month and Year of Current Data: February, 1987**

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
Total Manufacturing	$435.84	$436.23	$446.88	39.3	39.3	39.9	$11.09	$11.10	$11.20
Durable Goods	448.09	446.91	485.62	38.2	38.1	40.2	11.73	11.73	12.08
Lumber & Furniture	324.82	268.93	249.44	40.4	35.2	34.5	8.04	7.64	7.23
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	408.00	438.24	336.33	31.9	33.2	33.3	12.79	13.20	10.10
Primary Metal Industries	302.46	332.02	441.72	30.8	30.8	36.0	9.82	10.78	12.27
Fabricated Metal Products	410.42	388.94	391.17	39.2	38.7	39.0	10.47	10.05	10.03
Machinery Exc. Electrical	425.95	409.42	438.42	43.2	40.1	37.6	9.86	10.21	11.66
Electrical Equip. & Supplies	492.47	475.61	440.35	40.7	39.9	39.6	12.10	11.92	11.12
Transportation Equipment	558.60	598.92	710.38	35.0	38.7	46.4	15.96	14.45	15.31
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	(567.94)	(608.34)	(715.02)	(34.8)	(38.6)	(46.4)	(16.32)	(15.76)	(15.41)
Other Durable Goods	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nondurable Goods	418.20	422.30	383.57	40.8	41.2	39.3	10.25	10.25	9.76
Food & Kindred Products	437.33	419.76	364.01	42.5	42.4	40.9	10.29	9.90	8.90
Apparel & Other Textile Prod.	196.80	164.83	187.52	32.0	27.2	36.2	6.15	6.06	5.18
Paper & Allied Products	397.15	434.82	445.78	39.4	43.7	44.4	10.08	9.95	10.04
Printing & Publishing	456.62	468.29	403.86	41.7	41.7	38.1	10.95	11.23	10.60
Chemicals & Allied Products	526.26	535.39	457.83	42.9	42.9	37.9	12.53	12.48	12.08
Petroleum & Coal Products	449.46	437.72	443.75	39.6	38.6	35.7	11.35	11.34	12.43
Other Nondurable Goods	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

* This series excludes industry 2771.

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

St. Louis Labor Market Review

The St. Louis Area includes the City of St. Louis, and St. Louis, St. Charles, Jefferson and Franklin Counties in Missouri; and Clinton, Madison, Monroe, St. Clair and Jersey Counties in Illinois. The 1980 population for the Area was stated as 2,376,998 persons by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

February, 1987

Russell Signorino, Analyst

Area Labor Force Developments

The St. Louis MSA unemployment rate declined from 7.5% in January to 7.4% in February. Unemployment declined 1400 and total employment decreased 5000. Mild winter weather continued to reduce the area's unemployment rate and kept employment above normal seasonal levels. Construction, transportation and trade reported small seasonal employment declines. Seasonal gains occurred in services and government. Over the year unemployment declined 5800 and total employment rose 26700. The unemployment rate in February 1986 was 8.1%. Employment gains, although smaller than the previous four years, have continued since the middle of 1983. The area's unemployment rate in February was the lowest February rate since 1979 when it was 5.8%. Nonmanufacturing has been responsible for a large majority of the employment gains since 1983 but the lackluster performance of manufacturing jobs continues to keep the unemployment rate above 6.0%. Further employment reductions in major manufacturing industries are planned for later this year. There were 100 labor disputants in February, 700 in January and 200 in February 1986.

Manufacturing

Manufacturing employment declined 1200 over the month. Motor vehicles employment, affected by indefinite and temporary layoffs during the past few months, was down 1000. A planned mid-1987 plant closure along with a continuing decline in demand for labor due to automation will cause motor vehicle employment to remain below the 22,300 level recorded in February 1986 for the remainder of 1987. Small seasonal declines occurred in lumber and apparel while a plant closure caused the 100 decline in leather. Over the year, manufacturing declined 8200. Significant employment losses continued to be reported in primary metals, fabricated metals, motor vehicles and chemicals. Only one nondurable industry, food, recorded a gain. In durable goods, aircraft and stone reported employment increases.

Nonmanufacturing

Nonmanufacturing employment declined 17000 over the month due to small seasonal losses in construction, transportation, and trade. Nonteaching school personnel, or layoff between semesters in January, returned to work causing seasonal gains in services and government. Over the year, nonmanufacturing rose 18900. Services, up 13200, continued to report significant gains in business services, medical services and hotels. Finance, insurance and real estate recorded increases in all sub-industries. Retail gains were concentrated in department stores, apparel stores and restuarants. Strong home building activity caused the 1800 increase in construction. Government employment declines were caused by a significant reduction in local government health care workers.

Unemployment Rate Outlook

The unemployment rate in March, 1987 is expected to be 7.0%.

Unemployment and Manpower Resources

The industry distribution of Missouri resident claimants is:

Industry	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.'87	Feb.
Mining	31	27	32	44
Construction	1450	1801	2443	3558
Manufacturing	5580	7374	7211	7684
Public Utilities	753	779	848	970
Wholesale & Retail Tr.	2154	3241	3333	4428
Finance	321	373	387	520
Services	5366	5068	3915	4871
All Other	276	472	537	778
TOTAL	15931	19135	18706	22853

The occupational distribution of the intrastate Missouri resident claimant is:

Occupation	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.'87	Feb.
Prof., Tech. & Mgr.	1736	1716	1605	1788
Clerical	2324	2477	2205	2782
Sales	581	757	726	911
Farm, Fish & Forest	105	182	206	290
Processing	232	245	238	305
Machine Trades	1048	1141	1099	1399
Bench Work	698	873	893	1071
Structural Work	2175	2775	2604	3166
Misc. Work	1760	1996	1937	2403
Service	2016	2112	1729	2324
INA	3256	4861	5464	6414
TOTAL	15931	19135	18706	22853

Available Job Oppportunties

The occupations percentage distribution of the openings received and filled during fiscal year 1987 by the Missouri State Employment Service is as follows:

Occupational Group	Openings Received Percent	Openings Filled Percent
Professional, Technical & Managerial	4.1	1.7
Clerical	17.3	14.2
Sales	17.1	20.0
Processing	1.1	1.2
Machine Trades	5.3	5.1
Bench Work	3.7	4.3
Structural Work	5.0	4.7
Motor Freight & Trans.	4.5	4.1
Packaging & Material Handling	11.7	16.0
Domestic	1.1	0.6
Other Services	27.4	26.1
Other Occupations	1.7	2.0

Table 1. Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment
(Place of Work)

Area and State: St. Louis, Mo.-Ill. Met. Area **Month and Year of Current: February, 1987**

Item	Number of Jobs			Net Change To Current Month From:	
	Current Mo.	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary, Total	1,080,500	1,083,400	1,069,900	-2,900	+10,600
Percent Change				-(0.3)	+(1.0)
Manufacturing	215,700	216,900	223,900	-1,200	-8,200
Durable Goods	133,700	134,800	140,800	-1,100	-7,100
Lumber & Furniture	4,300	4,400	4,500	-100	-200
Stone, Clay & Glass	3,100	3,000	3,000	+100	+100
Primary Metal Industries	13,400	13,400	14,100	0	-700
Fabricated Metal Products	16,200	16,200	17,200	0	-1,000
Machinery, Except Electrical	17,400	17,200	17,600	+200	-200
Electrical & Electronic Equip.	14,300	14,300	14,500	-1,100	-4,600
Transportation Equipment	52,600	53,700	57,200	-1,100	-4,600
Motor Vehicles	16,600	17,600	22,300	-1,000	-5,700
Aircraft & Parts	30,300	30,400	29,100	-100	+1,200
Instruments & Misc. Mfg.	12,400	12,600	12,700	-200	-300
Nondurable Goods	82,000	82,100	83,100	-100	-1,100
Food & Kindred Products	22,500	22,400	21,600	+100	+900
Meat Products	1,000	1,000	1,200	0	-200
Beverages	8,900	8,900	8,200	0	+700
Textiles & Apparel	6,400	6,600	6,600	-200	-200
Paper & Paper Products	5,700	5,700	5,700	0	0
Printing & Publishing	16,500	16,400	16,900	+100	-400
Chemical & Allied Products	18,500	18,500	19,400	0	-900
Petroleum & Coal Products	2,500	2,500	2,700	0	-200
Leather & Leather Products	4,600	4,700	5,000	-100	-300
Other Nondurable Goods	5,300	5,300	5,300	0	0
Nonmanufacturing	864,800	866,500	845,900	-1,700	+18,900
Mining	3,400	3,500	3,500	-100	-100
Construction	50,900	54,100	49,100	-3,200	+1,800
Transportation & Public Utilities	73,000	73,800	72,600	-800	+400
Railroads	4,300	4,300	4,600	0	-300
Transportation, Except Railroads	38,700	39,600	38,700	-900	0
Communications & Public Utilities	30,000	29,900	29,300	+100	+700
Wholesale & Retail Trade	254,200	256,200	251,500	-2,000	+2,700
Wholesale Trade	61,300	61,600	62,500	-300	-1,200
Retail Trade	192,900	194,600	189,000	-1,700	+3,900
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	71,600	71,900	68,000	-200	+3,600
Service, Except Domestic	275,300	273,200	262,100	+2,100	+13,200
Total Government	136,400	133,800	139,200	+2,600	-2,800
Total Federal Government	36,800	36,700	37,200	+100	-400
Total State & Local Government	99,600	97,100	102,000	+2,500	-2,400
Persons Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	100	700	200	-600	-100

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2. Average Hours & Earnings of Production and Related Workers in Manufacturing

Area and State: St. Louis Metropolitan Area **Month and Year of Current Data: February, 1987**

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
Total Manufacturing	$478.38	$471.65	$459.68	42.0	41.3	40.5	$11.39	$11.42	$11.35
Durable Goods	506.54	494.08	491.00	43.0	41.8	41.4	11.78	11.82	11.86
Lumber & Furniture	338.22	363.51	317.69	39.1	40.3	36.6	8.65	9.02	8.68
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	448.92	398.04	347.48	40.7	38.2	33.9	11.03	10.42	10.25
Primary Metal Industries	440.57	472.68	419.52	42.2	44.3	40.3	10.44	10.67	10.41
Fabricated Metal Products	446.01	449.40	430.09	41.8	42.0	41.0	10.67	10.70	10.49
Machinery, Exc. Electrical	472.53	480.93	465.66	40.7	41.0	41.1	11.61	11.73	11.33
Elect & Electronic Equip.	408.00	390.25	437.41	40.8	39.7	41.5	10.00	9.83	10.54
Transportation Equipment	674.02	626.10	628.21	47.2	43.6	43.9	14.28	14.36	14.31
Instruments & Misc. Mfg.	307.97	301.67	304.81	38.4	36.7	37.4	8.02	8.22	8.15
Nondurable Goods	430.00	429.60	399.77	40.3	40.3	38.7	10.67	10.66	10.33
Food & Kindred Products	497.77	497.63	488.84	41.9	41.4	40.5	11.88	12.02	12.07
Textiles & Apparel	218.28	211.57	201.63	34.0	32.4	33.0	6.42	6.53	6.11
Paper & Paper Products	497.57	501.56	396.34	46.2	46.7	41.2	10.77	10.74	9.62
Printing & Publishing	404.54	408.39	374.81	38.2	38.6	37.0	10.59	10.58	10.13
Chemicals & Allied Prods.	522.86	511.29	480.36	42.2	41.4	40.4	12.39	12.35	11.89
Petroleum & Coal Products	608.85	608.03	591.63	41.0	41.0	41.0	14.85	14.83	14.43
Leather & Leather Products	235.41	272.51	199.92	39.3	44.6	35.7	5.99	6.11	5.60
Other Nondurable Goods	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Springfield Labor Market Review

(Greene and Christian Counties)

February, 1987

Lloyd Banwart, Analyst

Civilian Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment

The Springfield MSA labor force inched up 200 from January to reach 117,800 in February. This gain is the net result of a 300 increase in employment and a decrease of 100 in the number of unemployed persons. The rate of unemployment, estimated at 5.3 percent for February, is down one-tenth of a percentage point from the previous month.

Since February 1986, the rate of unemployment is down by two-tenths of a percentage point and the labor force grew by approximately 5,000.

Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment

Payrolled jobs, estimated at 103,100 for February, ticked up 100 from January. This is the net result of a 200 drop in manufacturing jobs and an increase of 300 in nonmanufacturing employment. The entire drop in manufacturing occurred in the durable goods segment. Nonmanufacturing industries recording significant changes in employment levels since January include: Transportation and utilities, up 100; finance, insurance and real estate, down 100; and services, up 300.

Hours and Earnings

Average hourly earnings of manufacturing production and related workers rose 14 cents from January to reach $8.62 in February. The average factory work week changed very little during the 30 day period.

Employment and Unemployment Outlook

Payrolled employment is expected to show a slight rise in March. Seasonal gains in nonmanufacturing jobs will more than off-set any employment decreases in the manufacturing sector.

A slight drop in unemployment should occur in March with a possible rate of 5.1 percent.

Table 1. Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Employment

(Place of Work)

(Benchmark — March, 1986)

Area and State: Springfield, Missouri **Month and Year of Current: February, 1987**

Item	Number of Jobs			Net Change To Current Month From:	
	Current Mo.	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
I	II	III	IV	V	VI
Total Nonag. Wage & Salary, Employment (Exc. Domestics)	103,100	103,000	100,000	+100	+3,100
Manufacturing	19,500	19,700	19,700	-100	-200
Durable Goods	10,400	10,600	10,000	-100	+400
Lumber & Wood (Inc. Furn.)	1,100	1,100	1,100	0	0
Other Durable Goods	8,000	8,000	8,600	0	-600
Nondurable Goods	9,100	9,100	9,700	0	-600
Food Processing	4,100	4,100	4,100	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1,700	1,700	1,600	0	+100
Other Nondurable Goods	3,300	3,300	4,000	0	-700
Nonmanufacturing	83,600	83,300	80,300	+300	+3,300
Mining	100	100	100	0	0
Construction	3,800	3,800	3,700	0	+100
Transportation & Utilities	6,500	6,400	6,300	+100	+200
Trade 27,900	27,900	26,700	0	+1,200	
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	5,000	5,100	4,900	-100	+100
Services	26,600	26,300	25,300	+300	+1,300
Government	13,700	13,700	13,300	0	+400
Federal	1,800	1,800	1,800	0	0
State and Local	11,900	11,900	11,500	0	+400
Persons Involved in Labor-Management Disputes	100	100	0	0	+100

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2. Gross Average Hours and Earnings for Production and Related Workers in Manufacturing Industries

Area and State: Springfield, Missouri **Month and Year of Current Data: February, 1987**

Industry	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago	Current Month	1 Mo. Ago	1 Yr. Ago
Total Manufacturing	$345.45	$340.81	$367.98	39.3	39.4	41.3	$8.79	$8.65	$8.91
Durable Goods	340.49	334.62	346.06	39.5	39.6	41.1	8.62	8.45	8.42
Nondurable Goods	351.78	349.95	394.67	39.0	39.1	41.5	9.02	8.95	9.51
Food & Kindred Products	372.09	372.88	453.19	39.5	39.5	44.3	9.42	9.44	10.23
Other Nondurable Goods	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

JOB SERVICE

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